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A new case of yellow fever was reported in Panama November 20. The patient was a Colombian who lived in the San Tomas Hospital, the charity hospital in the city of Panama. According to the official report he was taken sick in that institution, admitted to the ward as a patient on November 11, and died on November 20. This is the third case of yellow fever reported on the Isthmus since November 1, one of which, as previously reported, occurred in Colon.

As no steps have been taken by the Panama authorities to stamp out the infection in Bocas del Toro, a quarantine has been enforced against that place by the sanitary department here. All nonimmunes arriving from Bocas will be placed in detention for 5 days and the small sailing craft bringing such passengers will be fumigated before being allowed to come alongside the docks.

PHILIPPINE ISLANDS.

Reports from Manila—Cholera, plague, and smallpox—Interisland quarantine period reduced—Inspection and disinfection of vessels.

Chief Quarantine Officer Heiser reports, October 12, 19, and 25, as follows:

During the week ended October 7, 1905, quarantinable diseases were reported for the city of Manila as follows: Plague, 1 case, 1 death; cholera, 12 cases, 11 deaths.

The number of cholera cases for the week showed an increase over that of the preceding week. Seven of the cases occurred on one day. There is no explanation to show why this sudden increase should have taken place. Before this sharp rise took place cases averaged about 1 a day. The condition in the provinces is about the same as reported last week.

Total number of cases of cholera in Manila since the beginning of the outbreak, 210; deaths, 183.

Total number in the provinces, 437 cases, 326 deaths.

The following vessels bound for United States ports were granted bills of health during the week:

On October 1, 1905, the U. S. army transport *Logan* was released from five days' quarantine and granted a bill of health for San Francisco. All persons on board—188 crew, 102 cabin, and 216 steerage passengers—were inspected just prior to sailing.

On October 4, 1905, the British steamship *Changsha*, en route from Kobe to Zamboanga, was granted a supplemental bill of health after serving two days' quarantine at Mariveles, the vessel completing her five days' quarantine en route to Zamboanga.

On October 5, 1905, the British steamship *Kaifong*, en route from Hongkong and Amoy to Cebu and Iloilo, was granted a supplemental bill of health after serving three days' quarantine at Mariveles, the vessel completing the five days' detention en route to Cebu.

On October 7, 1905, the American ship *Erskine M. Phelps* completed her five days' quarantine and was inspected and granted a bill of health for Honolulu.

Week ended October 14, 1905. Quarantinable diseases: Smallpox, 2 cases, no deaths; cholera, 4 cases, 6 deaths.

No vessels were cleared for ports in the United States.

Week ended October 21, 1905. Quarantinable diseases: Plague, 1 case, 1 death; cholera, 5 cases, 5 deaths.

The number of cholera cases has remained about stationary and the situation has not shown much change, except that the cases for the week, in a number of instances, could be traced to direct infection from the provinces; so that, practically speaking, the city has been almost entirely free from the disease.

Interisland quarantine.

In view of the urgent necessity for more frequent communication with the provinces on account of the conditions which were brought about by the recent typhoon, and in view of the fact that the quarantine had been in operation for nearly two months with only 1 case of cholera making its appearance upon a vessel undergoing quarantine detention; and, furthermore, since the experience of the Service with cholera during the past three years has demonstrated that for practical purposes the incubation period of cholera is less than three days, it was decided to reduce the period of quarantine upon outgoing inter-island vessels from five to three days. The circular letter putting this order into effect is inclosed herewith.

During the week vessels bound for United States ports were treated as follows:

On October 15, 1905, the American bark *Hecla*, with 17 crew, entered quarantine prior to sailing for Port Townsend. Crew bathed, ship disinfected, and all held for five days. Released on October 20, 1905.

On October 15, 1905, the U. S. army transport *Buford*, with 157 crew and 792 steerage passengers on board, entered quarantine prior to being cleared for San Francisco. Crew and steerage passengers were bathed and their effects and baggage disinfected and detained in quarantine five days. Cabin passengers were embarked on the 20th, and, after inspection, vessel was granted a bill of health. Baggage and cargo either disinfected or passed after inspection, and so labeled.

On October 16, 1905, the German steamship *Vandalia*, en route from Japan ports to New York, was granted a supplemental bill of health. Vessel carried no passengers. Crew inspected on board prior to sailing.

On October 18, 1905, the British steamship *Sungkiang*, en route from Hongkong and Amoy to Iloilo and Cebu, entered quarantine prior to proceeding to Iloilo. Crew and steerage passengers were bathed and effects disinfected at the Mariveles quarantine station upon arrival from Amoy.

On October 19, 1905, the British steamship *Chingtu* entered quarantine prior to being granted a supplemental bill of health for Zamboanga. Vessel was cleared so as to make the quarantine and voyage total five days upon her arrival at Zamboanga. Crew and passengers inspected daily.

On October 20, 1905, the American steamship *Shawmut*, en route to Tacoma via Hongkong and Chinese and Japanese ports, was granted a bill of health. Vessel carried no steerage passengers for the United States, and after a rigid inspection of the personnel was cleared without quarantine.